AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, after the title, please insert the following heading:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

On page, line 10, please insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, please amend the paragraph at lines 11- 18 as follows:

It is known that sewage sludge is inevitably produced as a waste product during the treatment of water: each individual produces on average approximately 20 kilos per annum thereof, which represents, for Europe, more than 10 million tons ~~tonnes~~ per annum, expressed on a dry basis, i.e. 50 million tons ~~tonnes~~ of raw sludge when reference is made to "wet" sludge, which is composed of 20% of dry matter and 80% of water.

On page 2, line 7, please amend the paragraph at lines 5-13 as follows:

The majority of plants for the drying of sludge are "thermal drying" plants. They consume large amounts of energy (approximately 1000 kWh per ton ~~tonne~~ of water evaporated), in particular fossil fuels, and they require the presence of qualified personnel and high capital costs. For this reason, these solutions according to the current state of the art are, economically speaking, poorly suited to small or medium capacity plants.

On page 2, line 33, please amend the paragraph at lines 30-39 as follows:

The solar dryer arrangements known currently provide for the extraction of the water vapor resulting from the gradual drying of the sludge by known phenomena of natural convection ~~#convection~~ induced by the differences in density of the air in the greenhouse (these differences being due to the temperature and humidity gradients); solar dryers of this type are sometimes equipped with fans in order to provide for forced circulation and forced replacement of the gaseous atmosphere of the dryer (forced convection).

On page 4, line 20, please insert the following heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

On page 5, line 23, please insert the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION